

DUTCH VERY BITTER ON SHIP SEIZURE

Breach of Relations With
United States Urged in
Some Quarters.

FACTS ARE DISTORTED

Speakers in Both Chambers
Declare Action Was Not
Justifiable.

Tue. March 23.—In addressing the Dutch Parliament yesterday Dr. Louren, the Foreign Minister, said that President Wilson's statement that Dutch vessels were idle in ports of the United States was "absolutely without foundation." Dr. Louren added that under the provisional agreement, the greater part of them were chartered and some of them were navigating. He asserts that the seizure of Dutch shipping by the allied Governments was unjust.

"Without a shred of justice," he said, "the associated Governments have carried out the proposal, although the Dutch Government, in its reply, went as far as possible to meet the demands of the associated Powers. The resounding protest of the Government will find an echo in the two chambers and among the whole Dutch people. It is a protest imbued with the principle of right. The Government will not have to reproach itself if the country is subjected to severe trials, but not having done its utmost to prevent this injustice."

The Second Chamber passed unanimously a bill providing for the drainage of the Eider Zee.

Attacked in Upper Chamber.

In the Upper Chamber Senator J. T. Cramer attacked the United States after the Foreign Minister had completed his statement. The Senator recalled the Hudson-Fulton celebration in New York to commemorate the discovery of the Hudson River.

"A committee was sent to America," he said, "and the speaker who represented the Dutch Government was received with cheers by the Americans when he made a speech commemorating the achievements of his Dutch ancestors. The Americans had tears in their eyes when they saw our flag. The eyes of Americans have no tears to shed now over the dishonor of our flag."

"America regards neutrality as a partnership. We refuse to furnish war materials to the Allies—that is the head and front of our offending."

Senator Cramer asked what flag would be flown from the seized ships and said he hoped it would not be the Dutch flag, but if that flag was used, he hoped it would be hoisted at half-mast. Referring to President Wilson, the Senator declared:

"President Wilson calls himself our friend. Well, heaven preserve us from our friends."

The Senator said he hoped the Dutch would not take reprisals, which could be carried out easily, against the unfortunate interned prisoners in Holland, but they should render good for evil. He concluded:

"Our free and proud nation should prove that in these days of brutality the Dutch are the only gentlemen remaining in Europe."

Compared to Belgium.

Other speakers also criticized President Wilson. Deputy van Keel, a Socialist, said:

"The seizure of the Dutch fleet by President Wilson under the pretext of war necessity, is as bad as the violation of Belgium by Germany on the same pretext. We will maintain our independence, come what may. The American people have been misinformed and their indignation will be great when they learn the truth."

"The Government had too much faith in the friendly speeches of former American Minister Van Dyke," declared Deputy Hooft, an anti-Revolutionist. "To our shame the Government has not considered that often a wolf disguises himself in sheep's clothing. America has followed the practice of a brigand by holding a pistol to our head. The associated Governments have acted like common thieves."

Admiral Roch said the United States was taking advantage of the war to create the own merchant fleet and declared that England, aware of this, was seeking, by seizing neutral tonnage, to fill out the gaps in its own merchant marine arising out of the submarine warfare, but he never hesitated to let the thought would fall to keep its new competitors, the United States and Japan, out of the British sphere of interest. The Entente Powers, he asserted, were attempting to place blame upon Germany for doing exactly what they themselves were doing.

Neutrals' Position Bad.

The neutrals were placed in a precarious position not by the submarine warfare, Admiral Roch said, but primarily by America's refusal to permit exports of food stuffs, fodder and fertilizer to European neutrals in order to prevent their transportation to Germany. He said, "The neutrals are being forced, through fear of starvation, to surrender their tonnage."

SEIZED IN MANILA.

Americans Detain Two Dutch Ships in Philippines.

MANILA, March 23.—Under instructions from the American War Shipping Board, the Collector of Customs here has refused clearance to the Dutch steamship Tjipondari, bound for San Francisco, and the Tjikembang, bound for Java.

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PARIS IS SHELLED; GUNS 62 MILES OFF

Continued from First Page.

The German line near Nieuport in 1915, a distance of about twenty-two miles, were supposed to have been of 12 inch calibre. The calibre of the shells reported as having been dropped in Paris yesterday is about 9 1/2 inches.

The statement in the Associated Press dispatch that the shortest distance from Paris to the front is more than sixty-two miles indicates that there has been no breach in the battle line above Paris since the allied forces have been advanced to within what has been regarded as the extreme range of heavy pieces.

The Rhoda rifle, made in Austria, which was the only weapon mentioned by Entente ordnance experts in Washington yesterday as conceivably usable at such long range, is a tremendous enlargement of the plan of the ordinary high power rifle. There has been no intimation, however, that the Rhoda had been developed to such an enormous range.

One Navy Officer Dismissed.

Almost without exception the authorities here said it was ridiculous to suppose for an instant that the Germans of any size had devised the super gun that would shoot a projectile for sixty-two miles. The only dissenter was a former naval officer, who said the report was exceedingly improbable, but added:

"So many inventions have been made which were classed as impossible that scepticism is risky. In these days the man who says a thing can't be done often finds himself in the way of the man who does it."

This officer said it was theoretically possible to build a gun that would project a shell such an amazing distance, but that there were practical difficulties which even the Germans could not overcome.

Such a gun, he estimated, would have to weigh at least 1,250 tons and the casting of it would require a pit 225 feet deep. Assuming it could be manufactured, he did not see how it could be transported and put to any practical use.

Another officer wondered if the Germans had been able to perfect the sub-calibre idea on which ordnance inventors have long been working. "Sub-calibre" means firing a little shell from a big gun. The little projectile has behind it all the powder produced by the explosion of the powder used for one much bigger, but being smaller the resistance is much less and the range longer.

For example, a six inch shell is wrapped with some substance that brings its diameter up to 12 inches, so it just fits the bore of a 12 inch gun. It is fired from the 12 inch gun. After leaving the muzzle the temporary wrapping of the shell melts and the projectile is reduced to its natural size, 6 inches, keeps on. But the report that marks of rifling were found on the shells that broke Paris yesterday seems to dispose of this theory, for a sub-calibre projectile would bear no such marks.

Similarly, the theory that what really reached Paris was an aerial torpedo appears also to be disposed of. The aerial torpedo is merely an aeroplane without a pilot, driven by a motor, with a propeller fitted to push it in a straight line for a certain distance and timed to dive to earth after a certain flight, carrying a torpedo, which explodes on contact with the earth or a building. Such a torpedo would have marks of rifling. And if an aerial torpedo fell on Paris no one could mistake it for a shell.

The Sperry, Elmer A. and his son, Lawrence B., were reported in 1915 as having devised a gyroscopic aerial torpedo that would do deadly work, but if it is in use the fact has been kept a secret. Last month a Philadelphia, Lester B. Barlow, announced that he had invented an aerial torpedo that could be sent to Berlin from behind the allied lines in France.

He said the plans had been shown to Brig-Gen. Squier, head of the aviation section of the Signal Corps, and that the authorities in Washington admitted that "Berlin could be blown off the map and the German nation whipped in thirty days."

No Money to Build Torpedo.

Mr. Barlow said he and an aeronautical engineer were told about March 1 to go ahead and make a full sized torpedo without waiting for a contract, but later he found the contract had not been let and no money advanced for the purpose. He offered the torpedo as a gift to the Government.

At the time the inventor made his statement Joseph Steinhilber, president of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania, said:

"There is danger that it will strike the German inventor's mind soon, for the construction of this torpedo is so simple a live in constant fear that Germany may grasp the principle of this deadly weapon before we can use it."

The torpedo was said to have a range of 100 miles and carry more than half a ton of explosives.

The possibility of the Germans having perfected guns more powerful than any they have ever used has been mentioned in official reports. In the spring of 1916 two years ago, a memorandum of the War College Division of the American General Staff referred to the effectiveness of the German 42-centimeter gun and added: "It is claimed that the Krupp Company has now perfected the

42-centimeter (21.54) gun with a range of thirty-eight miles."

The same report noted the belief of our artillery officers before the war that the transportation of heavy field guns of more than 8 inch calibre was not feasible. Everybody believed this except Germany and Austria. In actual practice the Germans and Austrians early in the war proved that weapons as large as the 17.7 inch howitzers were easily mobile with field armies.

REFUSE TO BELIEVE
62 MILE GUN RANGE

Washington Officers Just
Guess at Paris Shelling.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Seldom have military circles been so mystified as they were this afternoon by the report flashed here by cable that the Germans were bombarding Paris.

"Have the Germans invented a new diabolical engine of war capable of throwing shells a distance of sixty-two miles?" This was the query that arose to everybody's lips, but as quickly as the query was raised the ordnance experts dismissed the idea with scorn.

One assumption was that the Germans had broken through the British lines to such an extent that the defending forces had had to fall back within fifteen or twenty miles of the French capital. But there was nothing in the despatches to bear out this assumption and army men pointed out that even if the Germans had succeeded in making a swift forward thrust there would have been no time to bring up heavy guns or build emplacements for firing them.

The only comment obtainable from the War Department was the terse statement: "I do not believe it."

Acting Secretary of War Crowell said: "It must have been an air raid. I do not believe long range guns have bombarded Paris."

Ordinance officers at the War Department said they did not credit the report that a gun had been fired at a range of sixty-two miles. The longest known range for artillery fire was established by the Germans a year ago when they threw shells into Dunkirk from a distance of approximately twenty-two miles. The longest range of any gun in the use of the American army is about sixteen miles. This is the 16 inch army weapon.

The reports from Paris stated that the shells were 240 millimeter shells, which would mean shells fired by a gun of about half inch calibre. Rear Admiral Earle, Chief of Ordnance of the Navy Department, said flatly that any such range as sixty-two miles was unthinkable for a gun of this calibre.

Inquiry among Entente military attaches brought the reply that there necessarily must be some mistake about the reports of shelling on Paris from any point in the German lines. There have been some rumors of a new Austrian gun of the so-called Skoda type, which was said to promise great range, but no one has dreamed of a sixty-two mile range, nor has anything definite been learned of the development of this weapon.

There have also been from time to time rumors of shell throwing devices capable of launching projectiles by centrifugal force, but this idea has never been considered practical. The idea of an aerial torpedo capable of making chance hits at a great range has been considered here and abroad, but American military attaches in Paris have explained today that its practicability has been questioned because it could not be aimed and was as likely to explode in an open field as at a spot where it might do damage.

Believed to Be Airplane Shells.

The idea gained ground in military circles that the announced bombardment of Paris "by long range guns" was by some curious mistake a result of the German airship raids over Paris. It is noted that the so-called bombardment is described as having begun about 8:15 this morning, while the official announcement of the airplane attack says that bombs were dropped over Paris at about 3:30 this morning. The belief here is that the airplane bombing of Paris in some way caused the mistaken report of the long range gun bombardment.

Another theory advanced in British circles here is that the shells which fell in Paris from artillery—if such shells did fall—were from French guns firing at German aircraft.

Some officers admitted the possibility of a hidden gun operating in the vicinity of Paris. It was said, however, that this could only be a weapon creating momentary terror, would have no military value and would be quickly discovered.

Another theory advanced was that the shells might have been fired from a French or British gun seized by traitors. Those who suggested this explanation said it would not be impossible for a squad of mutineers willing to risk an exploit that would be talked of for a long time, to have employed a gun in some isolated spot.

It was recalled that several months ago well substantiated reports were received in Washington of a revolt of a Russian regiment on the western front. The revolt was quickly suppressed.

As speculation on the news from Paris was the only thing possible this afternoon, officials were guessing as to the chances of tracing the mysterious bombardment to some such outbreak of disaffection.

It was recalled that when the Germans appeared with a gun that would throw a shell twenty-two miles into Dunkirk the French soon found a way to meet the attack, partly at least. It was said that a French wireless station was located not far from the German gun emplacement and the shell fell into the hands of the French.

News that the projectile was on its way was flashed to Dunkirk. As it took about six minutes for the shell to reach Dunkirk the warning got there first and the inhabitants had time to scurry for dugouts.

American officials say that incredible as this may sound, the range of the German guns was no less so.

At the same time that the National Food Administration issued a request through State and county food boards yesterday that the wheat consumption of the country be cut one-half until the next harvest has been gathered the welfare committee of the Board of Aldermen took under advisement an ordinance offered for its consideration by J. Lewis Amster, Health Commissioner, setting a penalty of ten days imprisonment or \$50 fine for the offence of wasting food.

Commissioner Amster has been checking up the amount of food which he believes to have been wasted in the city within the last year. He explained yesterday that in amount enough was thrown away to feed 136,000 people and that its value is estimated at about \$16,000,000. He declared that the worst cases of waste occur through the negligence of servants in the homes of the well to do and that in bread alone 60,000,000 pounds a year have been thrown away.

The welfare committee after hearing his statement and receiving a copy of the proposed ordinance took it under advisement.

Must Cut Wheat's Use in Half.

The National Food Administration did not back up its request for an increased economy in wheat products by a threat of fine or imprisonment, but issued a statement that the normal national consumption of 42,000,000 bushels of wheat a month must be cut in half if the army and navy and allies are to be considered, and that from now until the harvest is in families should regulate their wheat consumption to a figure of one and a half pounds of wheat per week per person.

The various city food boards for the present will leave the matter to personal honesty as far as private householders are concerned, but in respect to hotels, restaurants and stores will take measures to see that the appeal is met by the clearest. Among the rules for public eating places and stores as issued yesterday are the following:

Restaurants and hotels to observe two wheatless days a week as at present and are not to serve more than two ounces of wheat to a person at a meal. They are not to buy more than six pounds of wheat for every ninety meals they expect to serve and are not to serve any wheat products at all unless specially ordered.

Retailers are not to serve more than an eighth of a barrel of flour to a customer at any one time and in no case to sell wheat products without the sale of an equal amount of other cereal products.

Bread Loaves to Be Smaller.

Bakers are asked to reduce the volume of victory bread loaf by baking three-quarter pound loaves instead of pound loaves and to save the amount of their wheat purchases within 70 per cent. of the monthly amount purchased during the four months before March 1. Manufacturers using wheat for non-food products are to cease such manufacture entirely.

There is no limit upon the use of other cereal and grain products.

Like the Health Commissioner, the Food Board takes special cognizance of the well to do householder and asks especially that women employing servants keep a sharp watch upon them. The promise is made that with the arrival of the harvest the rules as to wheat will be greatly relaxed. In the meantime, says Mr. Hoover: "We ask for the necessary patience, sacrifice and cooperation of all."

It was announced yesterday that the National Milk and Dairy Farm Products Association will open an exposition on May 20 at the Grand Central Palace. The exposition will be devoted largely to education in the uses of milk in food preparation.

April 6 National Bakers' Day.

CHICAGO, March 23.—April 6 was designated as National Bakers' day by more than 200 bakers from every part of the country, who concluded their conference today. It was decided that on that day there will be simultaneous meetings in every State, at which organizations will be completed to carry into effect the plans of cooperation with the State and Federal Food Administrations. A resolution adopted called on the millers of America to produce larger quantities of a better corn product for breadmaking purposes.

MAISON
BERNARD

FIFTH AVE. at FIFTY-SEVENTH ST.

Announce the Arrival of
NEW IMPORTATIONS
FOR SPRING & SUMMER

Cowns Capes Hats
Summer Furs

Special Sale
Monday and Tuesday

OF

Summer Models just returned from our
Palm Beach Exhibit—some slightly
handled from modeling and
transportation.

Dresses
Suits
Coats
Capes

ALL AT
\$25 & \$35

Former prices up to \$150

Sport Skirts and Sport Sweaters, \$5.00

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THE EDISON SHOP

The Phonograph Corporation of Manhattan, Prop.

473 Fifth Avenue
Opposite Public Library

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Very few of our customers care to play other than Edison records, yet it is a great
satisfaction to know that you may play any make of record better than it can
be played on the machine for which it was made.

CITY'S FOOD WASTE
\$16,000,000 YEARLY

Amster Proposes \$50 Fine or
10 Days in Prison for
Misuse of Edibles.

WHEAT SUPPLY REDUCED

Hoover Cuts Cereal's Use in
Half Until Next Harvest
and New Rules Issued.

At the same time that the National Food Administration issued a request through State and county food boards yesterday that the wheat consumption of the country be cut one-half until the next harvest has been gathered the welfare committee of the Board of Aldermen took under advisement an ordinance offered for its consideration by J. Lewis Amster, Health Commissioner, setting a penalty of ten days imprisonment or \$50 fine for the offence of wasting food.

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